



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, and Principals  
**FROM:** Schauna Findlay, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
**DATE:** April 13, 2011  
**SUBJECT:** Common Core State Standards Update and Literacy Standards Webinars

A new Common Core State Standards webpage now hosts several resources to assist school leaders in providing additional information to teachers as we continue our Transition to the Common Core State Standards. You will find the following information at [www.doe.in.gov/commoncore](http://www.doe.in.gov/commoncore) under the Transitioning to the Common Core Standards heading.

1. Making the Transition to the Common Core State Standards: Reasoning, Road Map, Realignment, and Resources video
2. Transition Road Map and Detailed CCSS Transition Road Map
3. Making the Transition to the Common Core Series for English Language Arts and Literacy
  - a. Videos describing the Four Major Shifts in Literacy Instruction for ALL Disciplines
  - b. Content-specific videos for ALL secondary teachers on the Literacy Standards (except World Languages and Math)
4. Instructional Transition Guidance for English Language Arts teachers including How to Use the “Crosswalk” documents

This information is being provided through SAMS and PAMS so that administrators can use these resources (1) to begin high-level planning for implementing the Common Core State Standards over the next three years using the Transition Road Map (item 2) and (2) to further orient staff members to what the transition to the Common Core State Standards will require of them. Many administrators may find it useful to show and discuss the transition video (item 1) in a staff meeting to ensure all teachers receive the same information and then to have the literacy videos for all teachers (item 3a) and content specific videos (items 3b and 4) viewed and discussed in department meetings or independently.

This information is not being shared at this time through teacher email so that administrators can plan how best to roll this information out to their staffs purposefully while planning for the work of realigning curriculum and resources. However, before the school year ends, we will send this information to all teachers through teacher email and through other communications to ensure everyone receives these useful resources.

Once the items above have been reviewed, the task of re-aligning the English Language Arts curriculum for 2011-12 should begin. Curriculum development guidance is being provided as the **first step** to assist schools in developing high quality curriculum to be implemented consistently in every classroom. This guidance can be found at the Curriculum Map Resources link on the Learning Connection at <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Login.aspx>. The Curriculum Map Resources have been published for grades K-5. The guidance and resources provided include the following: 1) a shared meaning of the standards through the Learning Targets which make explicit the skills necessary to learn the standards; 2) Domains and Clusters which group both the Indiana and Common Core Standards; 3) instructional guidance; 4) instructional strategies; 5) instructional resources and lessons; 6) essential vocabulary; 7) sample essential questions and big ideas; 8) state formative and summative assessment alignment and suggestions for additional common assessments; 9) links to sample units and unit planning templates; and 10) a sample curriculum mapping template.

Additional information regarding mathematics and curriculum development resources for additional grade levels will be coming to you soon.